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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

DECEMBER 16th, 1976, ISSUE No. 48

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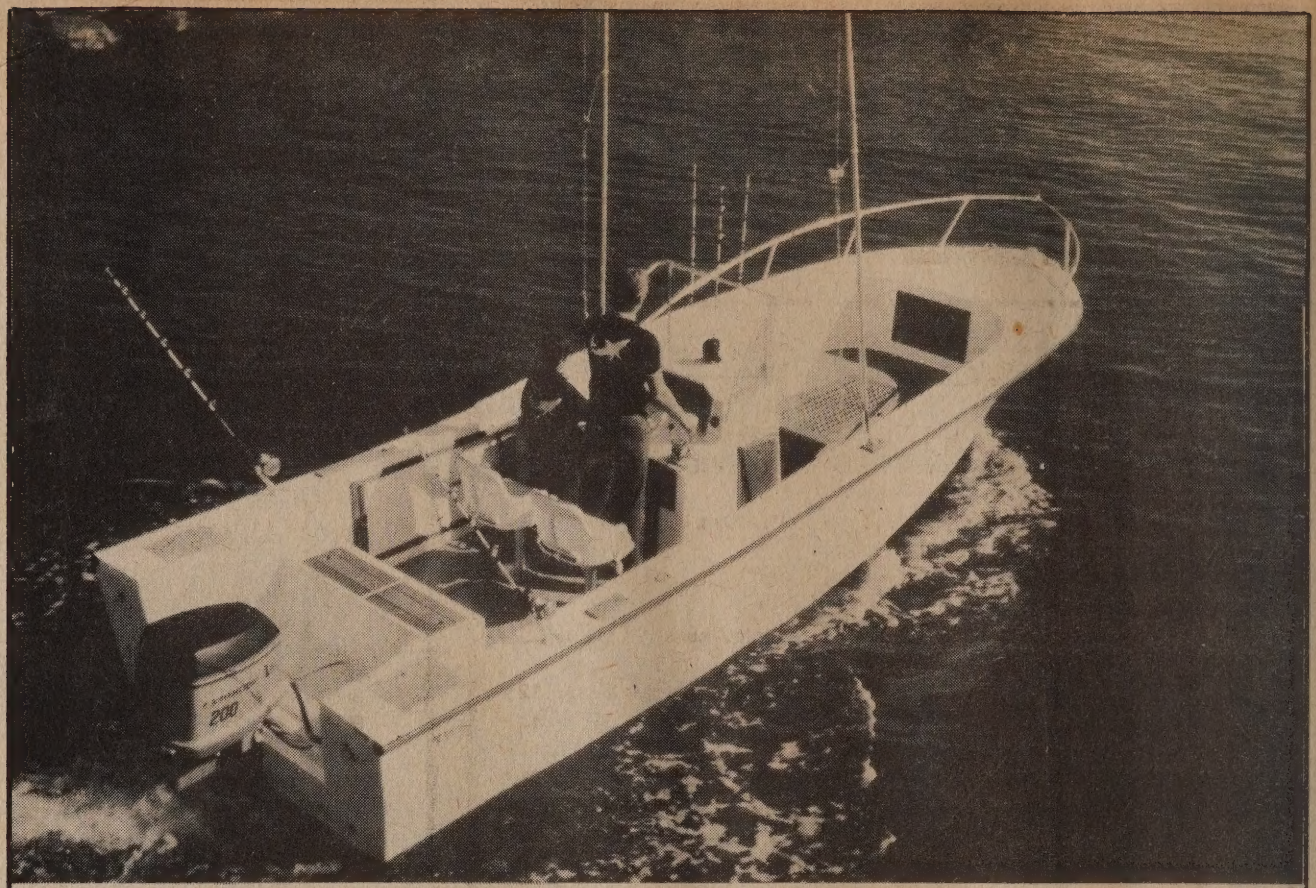
★ FOREIGN FISH QUOTAS ★



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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

Vol. 11, No. 48 DECEMBER 15th, 1976

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Red Thompson gaffs a nice codfish for Lou Rasado of Herman's Sporting Goods. Photo by Dick Mermon of Shakespeare Corp.

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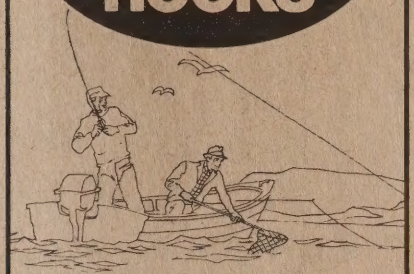

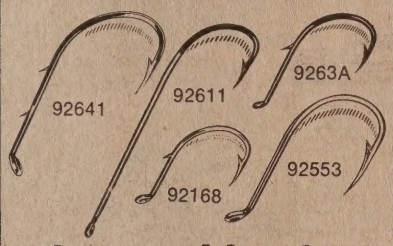

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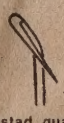

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EDITORIAL

What's To Become Of Recreation?

The New York Metropolitan area is a high population density center and great care must be taken as we build and structure our society to insure that adequate areas of recreation remain for future generations.

It is easy for us to become too deeply involved in pressing problems. These problems seem to be part of a well conceived "plot" to prevent us from finding our happiness in the twentieth century.

No, I haven't become paranoid. We know that there is no plot, but we also know that large population centers generate problems of such magnitude that it sometimes seems that the fight against them or to keep them under control does not allow us to take a breath. Furthermore, in the hustle to correct problems of pollution, energy, habitat protection, declining fish stocks, air pollution, sewage, chemical toxicology, and a host of others, we forget that we are human beings and that not all of our real needs involve foods, shelter and clothing.

Consider the following paradox. Unions have been struggling, for the better part of half a century, to secure better working conditions for the workers that they represent. One of the key benefits, they contend, is to provide more leisure time. Union leaders argue that one of the pluses to come from technology and a high standard of living should be more leisure time: Time to expand the intellect, pursue hobbies, and relax. The relaxed worker is said to be more productive when he or she returns to the job.

OK! These concepts seem sound to us. Yet, how do workers enjoy their leisure time if they can't afford some activities and can not find the space and opportunity for others. This is a real problem that is becoming more severe all the time.

Fishermen are acutely aware of this. The cost of fishing has skyrocketed in recent years what with the price of petroleum and petroleum products "taking off" for the moon. Most fishermen, however, would still not rate this as number one on their hit parade of gripes!

It has been our experience that more and more anglers are concerned over access. The right to fish! Surfcasters were the first to herald the coming of declining access. They saw more and more beaches closed to them completely, while others required special resident permits, and some could no longer be explored with a buggy.

Now the boat fisherman's domain is coming under attack. We are just beginning to see the tip of this iceberg but within a decade we believe that the problems of access for all fishermen will become astronomical unless anglers prepare for a dedicated battle right now!

A couple of issues ago we ran an angler's notice that the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers planned to open new areas of Great South Bay to the use of fish traps.

We will not beat around the bush and we will not even attempt to be polite. The idea is outrageous. Furthermore we think that it is stupid, insane, and illogical.

The proposal is so unthinkable as to seem unreal. How can anyone, in this day of growing population density and shrinking recreational access, propose to allow fish traps from Nicoll Bay to the Smith Point Bridge!!

It boggles the mind! What will be next? Fire Island and Jones Inlet. Why not close the entire Great South Bay to fishing and allow only fish traps and gill netters to operate. And just to make sure that nobody cheats, let's get bulldozers and cranes and tear up all the boat ramps, rip down piers, docks, and bulkheads. Let's prohibit fishing and bathing on the ocean side too. This way the handful of coastal commercial fishermen could have a good shot at capturing every fish that travels along the beach inside the offshore bar.

We feel that this sarcasm is well founded. The insanity of the proposal motivated it, and the recognition that this will be a growing problem in the years ahead makes us furious!

What good will it do to support a highly technological society with a fantastic standard of living if the people for which it was designed are unhappy or worse unproductive and apathetic?

"Man CAN NOT live by bread alone." No matter how often this saying has been repeated it remains very, very true. If we have the time, we must also have the access!

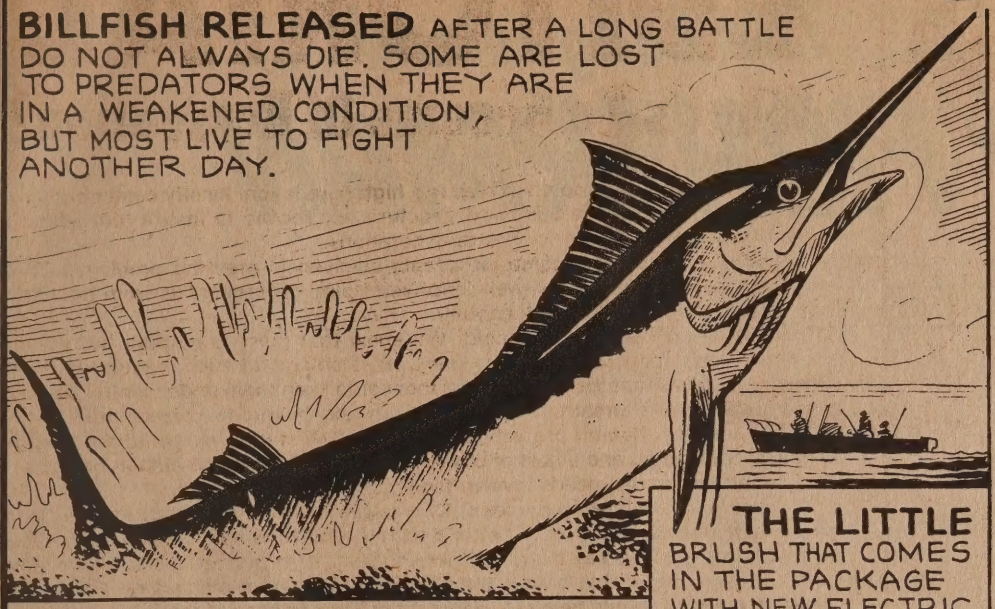
We call upon all government agencies to look before they leap. The

(Continued on page 23.)

FISHERMAN TIPS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

BILLFISH RELEASED AFTER A LONG BATTLE DO NOT ALWAYS DIE. SOME ARE LOST TO PREDATORS WHEN THEY ARE IN A WEAKENED CONDITION, BUT MOST LIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY.



TAKING ALONG A BATHROOM SCALES ON BOARD WILL GIVE YOU A QUICK METHOD OF WEIGHING FISH THAT YOU PLAN TO RELEASE. STAND ON THE SCALES WITH YOUR CATCH AND THEN SUBTRACT YOUR OWN WEIGHT!

MORE AND MORE FISHERMEN ARE OUTBOARDING DURING THE WINTER EVEN IN FREEZING WEATHER. THE WATER FOR THE COOLING SYSTEM WILL NOT FREEZE IN THE ENGINE IF THE LOWER UNIT IS IN THE WATER. *DO NOT TILT THE ENGINE OUT OF THE WATER WHEN IT IS STOPPED.* ALSO DO NOT RUN YOUR ENGINE CARBURETOR DRY BY REMOVING THE GAS LINE TO STOP THE ENGINE.

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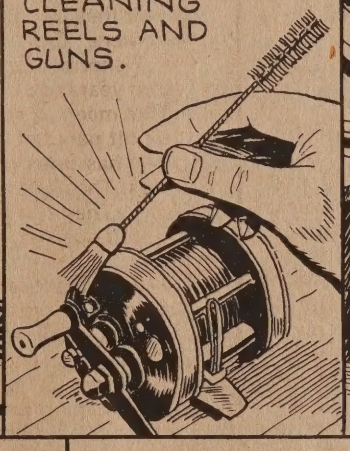

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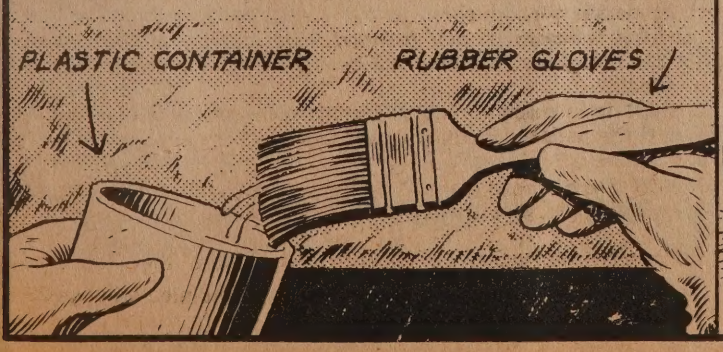

ALWAYS PLAY A FISH COMPLETELY OUT BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO LAND IT WITHOUT A NET. A SUDDEN LUNGE CAN DRIVE EXPOSED HOOKS INTO YOUR HAND.

The Long Island
FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE NEW YORK AREA • PUBLISHED SINCE 1966

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December 8, 1976

National Marine Fisheries Service
Office of the Regional Director
Gloucester, Mass. 01930

Dear Sirs:

Mr. Scott Simons and myself were present at the Holiday Inn, at Nesconset on December 2, 1976 when The National Marine Fisheries Service held an informal hearing to review the Preliminary Fisheries Management Plans.

The Long Island Fisherman as a weekly sportfishing magazine represents almost 100,000 readers who are sportsfishermen, conservation minded outdoorsmen, and concerned citizens. We were present on December 2 in that capacity and are offering the enclosed input also in that capacity.

The Long Island Fisherman has always been active in various marine environmental concerns and our editorial that appeared in 1966 spearheaded interest in the 200 mile limit concept on Long Island. We are hopeful that our suggestions and recommendations will be given considerable attention since we have considerable influence on Long Island and because we represent so many concerned individuals.

Enclosed please find our suggestions and recommendations. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully,

William A. Muller

Dr. William A. Muller
Associate Editor

Scott Simons

Scott Simons
Managing Editor

Suggestions And Recommendations For Changes In The Preliminary Fisheries Management Plans That Will Serve As Interim Management Criteria For The Period March 1,1977 To March 1,1978

We acknowledge the fact that the Preliminary Fisheries Management plans were prepared with the best scientific data and evaluations available and that the authors of these documents were motivated by conscience, not politics, to produce the best plans possible.

However, although we do not question the honesty, integrity and credentials of members of the National Marine Fisheries Service we do have considerable **objection** to what is termed "the best possible available data." Marine biologists acknowledge that sampling methods are weak and that, at best, most data on fish stocks biomass and population estimates are poor. There simply remains too many unknown variables to be accurate. There exists today no truly reliable methods for sampling and estimating fish stocks.

True, the techniques employed to produce the data used to formulate the present PMP's are better than guess work, nonetheless it must be acknowledged as weak data.

Second, it is necessary to say that many fisheries biologists and icthyologists are not in touch with the real world. That is, their approaches are strictly from textbooks and the conclusions are reached from commercial landings and sampling statistics. Little creativity exists in these disciplines. The future maybe different if Texas Instruments is able to develop remote sensing equipment, submarine population monitoring systems, and a method for applying and integrating generated data. But it appears that this is years away.

As an alternative to future technologies, other data is needed to supplement existing landings and sampling data. It is our opinion that a vast data resource has been neglected by Departments of Environmental Conservation, scientists and The National Marine Fisheries Service.

Coastal sportfishermen, charter and partyboat captains, and U.S. commercial fishermen are literally "warehouses" of information gained from decades of experience on and in the water. Frequently, because they are untrained, they are unable to integrate this data, but surely we as scientists could organize the data and compile it in ways that would have considerable meaning.

Although scientists insist that some species of fish are in excellent condition, that is, that the stocks are plentiful, this is not a real evaluation. Silver hake is such an example. Although deep ocean stocks may be in good supply, inshore the picture is bleak. This fact, that can be gleaned from interviews with thousands of U.S. commercial fishermen, charter and partyboat captains, and sportfishermen, suggests that the total population size of this species may not be viable from a practical point of view. True the population may be large enough to perpetuate the next and future generations but it is only a shadow of past size. Thus, the percentage of fish that migrate into shallow water may remain low and therefore unavailable to domestic activities.

Perhaps, the example of the silver hake is a poor one, because they have begun to reappear in some numbers inshore over the past several years. However, in a way it is a good example. Even though more of these fish have been taken inshore recently, the scope of the sport fishery is still well below prior levels.

We believe that it is theoretically possible to employ maximum sustained yields on the high seas, but that these yields may spell "doom" for shallow water fishermen, commercial and sportsmen alike. Since so many millions, perhaps billions of dollars are added to the economy by marine recreation activities and because so many U.S. jobs depend upon the inshore commercial take we feel that quotas should be set to allow for expansion of existing fish stocks in order that the inshore activities and the economy that it feeds can again become viable.

Furthermore, we must be cautious not to destroy the recreational rights of U.S. citizens.

In summary to this point then:

1. Recognition that the available data base is weak and biased
2. Recognition of the recreational rights of U.S. citizens
3. Recognition of the need to bolster the non-polluting U.S. commercial fishing industry.
4. Recognition of the need to protect a regional domestic economy.

Furthermore, we would like to summarize other recommendations that arise for inconsistencies in the PMP's and oversights of other real needs.

1. PMP Atlantic Mackerel (**Scomber scombrus**)

It is illogical, unrealistic, and unscientific to set the quota for this species at 55,000 metric tons. By your own admission, the stocks are in trouble and scientists recommend a TAC of zero in order that the stocks rebuild. This should be a high priority. "A substantial by-catch of mackerel is expected in the U.S.S.R. hake fisheries." (N.M.F.S., summary of PMP's, 10/26/76.)

The 55,000 metric ton mackerel quota ignores this potential by-catch. Therefore, it seems likely that the total catch for mackerel (1977) will exceed 55,000 metric tons. Since this quota will not permit expansion of the fishery, a mackerel catch in excess of quota (from by-catch) should result in further depletion of mackerel stocks. **TAC for 1977 should be set at zero.**

2. Catch windows overlap previously agreed treaty zone that recognizes an area southeast of Long Island that is a wintering and spawning ground for a number of dimersal species. These species include the black sea bass (**Centroppristes striatus**), scup (**Stenotomus chrysops**), and fluke (**Paralicthes dentatus.**) Since the inception of the treaty these previously decimated stocks have increased and their return has enhanced a weak commercial and sportfishery for these species. **Close off that portion of catch windows that overlap this area.**

3. Too many "loopholes" exist via the vehicle of overlapping windows and seasons as well as that provision known as "incidental catch" to insure reliable statistics. **Segregate windows and seasons so that they are completely discrete entities.: Species by species.:**

4. We can not trust the data supplied by foreign nationals. Much evidence exists to support this. One, they have frequently violated the existing 12 mile limit. Second, they have threatened U.S. commercial fishermen's property. Third, prior catch statistics have not been accurate. **Therefore, allow only as many foreign vessels into the 200-mile fishing jurisdictional zone that can be provided with competent U.S. observers.**

5. PMP Atlantic Herring (**Clupea harengus harengus**) Similar situation to atlantic mackerel. Scientists recommend a TAC of zero in order to allow the stocks to rebuild. A TAC of 40,000 is proposed and it is inconsistent. We **recommend a TAC for 1977 of 13,000 metric tons as U.S. catch only,** eliminating the allocation of 27,000 metric tons to foreign nationals. This recommendation is made with an eye toward preventing the collapse of the industry.

6. PMP Squid (**Illex and Loligo**). Data indicates that the total catch for these mollusks has been declining. Therefore, a TAC that is consistent with prior quotas (last 5 years) seems a poor choice. True, these squid are short-lived and they should be harvested, **but provision should be allowed for stocks to expand. This provision should be reflected by lower quotas.** Squid are important as bait resources for many gamefish as well as being important economically.

7. We have strong suspicions that monitoring the incidental catch of "other finfish" will be difficult if not impossible. In fact, we strongly believe that **excepted** species such as cod and pollack will be harvested in significant numbers. Closing window areas that overlap with wintering grounds should help (item #2), **but we further suggest that bottom trawls not be allowed for the taking of squid. Furthermore, we propose more extensive surveillance of foreign vessels by on-board observers.**

8. In anticipation of the 200-mile fishing jurisdictional limit foreign nationals have begun to purchase interests in U.S. Commercial fishing firms and packing houses. (The Long Island Press, Thursday, 12-2-76). The following firms have been infiltrated: Hilton Seafoods of Japan; North Pacific Processors of Japan) Harbor Seafoods of Japan; Bellingham Cold Storage of U.S.S.R.; Los Angeles Smoking Curing Co. of Finland and Seacoast Products (Menhaden) which is 40 percent British Control.

Recommendations: A. Subsidies for U.S. fishing industry. **B.** Prohibition of foreign control of U.S. fishing industries; **C.** Establishment of trade relationships with foreign nationals to promote a better balance of payments and to encourage a ready market for U.S. fishing products.; **D.** U.S. companies with foreign infiltration. Percentage of ownership to become part of foreign quota. Example: If U.S.S.R. owns 50 percent of company A. Further if company A harvests 50,000 metric tons of a species with a foreign quota of 100,000 metric tons, **25,000** metric tons of company A should be subtracted from that yearly quota for the U.S.S.R. for that species.

Surf Side with Doc Muller

Philosophy of Success

With the best of the year's surf fishing behind us, this is a good time to look back and take stock of what has happened on a personal level.

True, this was not a great year for surf fishermen, but it wasn't a total disaster either. But beyond that, how did you do? Did you catch your share of fish? If you didn't, why not?

Surf fishing is the hard way to fish! We do it because we like it! There's no complaints. With that out of the way, each of us should look at the elements that contribute to successful surf fishing.

New surf fishermen are constantly approaching the "regulars" with queries about how and why to succeed. At this early stage, they know that there is an alure of the surf, a magic that draws them like a fly to honey. They don't exactly know what it is, but even now they are prepared to live with empty stringers and fishless nights in order to fish the surf.

Many will become discouraged and many will not fish beside us next year. Many will complain to successful surfmen that they are not getting a fair shake; that we should help them.

Surf fishermen are a little tight lipped, but still I know many times when an experienced man has extended a helping hand to a newcomer. There is validity to the complaints, but there is also justification in denial.

The single most important factor that makes a guy successful in the surf is time, given that he has paid the easy dues of learning skills: casting, working lures, rigging, fighting big fish, maintaining equipment, etc. It is rare when a regular will not offer advice about these things, but it is sometimes true that the neophyte will neither ask nor listen to what is offered. But it is wrong to expect that the experienced man will offer all pieces of the puzzle. As Kurt, a toughened northshore fishing friend put it, "Helping a guy is like a cook telling another cook about a new recipe: they will explain carefully but always leave one or two items unsaid." He's right! If all of the ingredients were presented in a nice little package there would exist no challenge.

You have got to put your time in! Al Apmann, an accomplished surf fisherman in my club whose specialty is bait, said it well. "You have got to be there, fishing, watching, listening and learning !"

If I fish five nights in a row only to catch one good fish, the observers see only the weight, length, and girth of the fish. They may think that I have been lucky or secretive. But while my companions and I went red-eyed for a solid week, they may have been sleeping warm, cozy and rested.

For example, I offer the following personal statistics as vivid clarification of my point. This summer, during the dog-days of July and August, I took seven bass over 15 pounds from the surf. This is not spectacular, but at this time and place it was respectable by comparison. The simple presentation of the weights of the fish looks like one thing. Now let's take a look at the real meaningful numbers. I fished 36 nights in July and August according to my log. I followed the tide so this means I fished intervals that ranged from dusk till dawn. Now consider that each trip averaged four hours and that equates to a total hour input of 144 hours for the two months!

Now, if we divide the number of hours by the number of point fish taken (7) we arrive at the figure of 20.6 hours of fishing for every fish!

Those statistics will probably induce a wide diversity of reaction. The boat fishermen will probably say; "You surf fishermen are nuts, why not buy a boat!" The experienced surf fishermen shakes his head up and down in quiet understanding not only of the time involved but also of the love of the sport that keeps us coming back.

True, the hours drag on at times, but when a bass grabs that bait or artificial and takes its first charge towards Europe, when the heavy surf stick looms in front against the pall grey of night bent half-circle, and when the line peels away from a smooth drag, one is satisfied and peaceful.

You've got to put your time in! When you find the fish you have to work your butt off and there are no if, ands, or buts, about it. Cast, retrieve, cast, retrieve, and cast some more. Light a cigarette. Stretch the back muscles. Wish you were in bed as the cold rain works under the rubber top and runs down your back. Check the drag. Check the line for frays. Bite through the line and retie. Cast some more. Wish you had gone somewhere else where surely somebody was into fish. Stretch the muscles and cast some more. Concentrate on the retrieve. Cast, cast, cast and cast.

Just as your mind wanders to something else, "BAM" you're in! Line runs off the reel and you feel that fish shake its head. It dives for the bottom. You feel the fish shaking its snout in the sand. You don't yet know how big she is, She runs again and the speed and distance are good. Pause, she shakes her head. She runs again and still the strength is not diminished. You decide then and there: It's a good fish! Bear down now. Make sure there's no slack. Put the hurt to her. Lean back and apply careful but heavy pressure.

You've got to put your time in! Cliche'. Perhaps, but nonetheless true. I'll tolerate no complaints from anyone whose green eye sees only the Schaefer blanks and not the hours that I've put in and I'll except no praise from admiring eyes that wish to see me as an unusual expert!

I put my time in and sometimes I catch my fish, sometimes I don't. Don't get me wrong, I've earned those fish. I've practiced my skills and I know when and where to fish. But most of all I put my time in.

And still there are those that put even more time in and their success is proportionately greater. I know my responsibilities and endurance and I know when I must stop. But do not begrudge those additional fish to the men whose stamina exceeds yours. They too earn each and every fish.

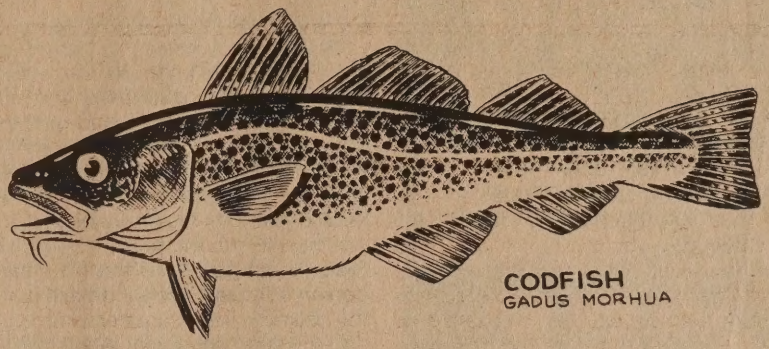
For example, there are two contributors to this column whose stamina astounds me. I have written of it before too. John Fritz and Fred Schwab are men who never give up. They can and they have gone for a month without a hit yet they pound the beach night after night. They put their time in!

You've got to put your time in! Repeat this to yourself all winter, each night before you fall off to sleep. Each of us has gotten into our share of trouble because of the time we give this sport, and each of us has gotten sick, stayed sick longer, and been threatened by doctors. There are many more nameless figures who do the same. I've fished with them and I respect them!

This hasn't been a bad year for me, especially in comparison to what is the quality of surf fishing in 1976. If this were 1968, I'd be bitterly disappointed. But then, everything is relative!

Fish Talk
with Dr. W.A. Muller

COD-
Gadus morhua



COD ARE BASICALLY BOTTOM dwellers but they are not sedentary. They roam hundreds and perhaps thousands of miles of ocean each year following the changing patterns of ocean temperatures. They will chase baitfish that are close to the bottom and can put on a good spurt of speed over short distances.

THE COD IS ONE OF 23 members of the family of hakes and cod. Incidentally, only one species, the burbot *Lota lola*, lives in fresh water. The cod has three dorsal fins and two anal fins. It has prominant barbels under its chin. These are tactile sense organs that helps the cod to find food that is in bottom sediment.

THEY RANGE ON BOTH SIDES of the Atlantic and on our side are found from Virginia to the Arctic Ocean, although they are most plentiful from New Jersey to Nova Scotia. In fact, one of the most codfish-rich waters in the world are The Grand Banks off Nova Scotia in the North Atlantic.

WESTERN MAN HAS BEEN venturing to these waters almost since the dawn of navigation and we still harvest cod there today.

MOST FAMOUS of codfishermen are the Portuguese. For centuries they have sailed to the Grand Banks, spending many months away from home each year.

THERE IS SOMETHING FITTING and just about the Portuguese way. They sail to the fishing grounds: Power is available only for limited uses. And they do not fish with giant otter trawls that scar the bottom and gather entire schools of fish. The Portuguese challenge both nature and themselves. Their way is the ecological way. They pit man against codfish instead of manipulating nature with technology.

AND YET, IN SPITE of this, their way is seriously endangered. The Soviet Block nations have depleted stocks of codfish to the point where the Portuguese dorymen have difficulty finding fish.

THE DORYMEN ARE A tough group of codfishermen. Each day they set sail on the open ocean to fish. They leave the safety of the mother ship and may even lose sight of her if fog rolls in.

THEY SET OUT IN A 4,000 foot long-line with about 100 hooks, each baited with sardine or herring. And then they wait, for several hours, hopeful that in the depths below codfish are swallowing their baits. They wait in silence. Perhaps they will eat some codfish and bread. They are counting on the gluttony and stupidity of the cod. They feel no bites and set no hooks.

THE DORYMEN MAY JIG with lead lures too. These lone lures are said to resemble herring, and the dorymen will jig them while they wait for the baited hooks to fill with cod. The lead-lure has several very large hooks below it. When the cod lunges at the lure, the dorymen snags the cod.

NOW THE LONG-LINE is retrieved and each cod is removed and stacked in the bottom of the dory. The remaining cod on the long-line wait docily to be removed. The job is hard but when all 100 hooks are checked the tiny dory may contain up to half-a-ton of codfish.

BUT THE DORYMEN'S DAY is not over. He may work 20 hours a day in all. Back on the mother ship he will clean his catch and then they must be salted and stored below. Only when these tasks are done will he rest and eat "the soup of sorrow."—Codfish Soup!

SOUND FAMILIAR? To me the men who seek codfish for sport are also rugged men. They test the elements and themselves in the cold depths of the winter ocean. So too the party boat captains whose determined resignation brings them out on the stormy seas. I salute them all!

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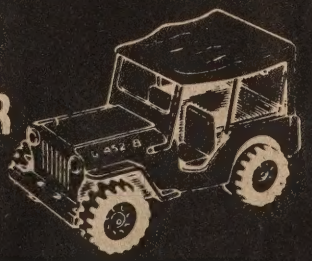
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Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

Pilgrim's Progress

I sat relaxed, deep in Jack London's masterful tale of "The Sea Wolf" when the jangle of the telephone snapped me back to the present. It was Artie Leidecker, my long-time friend and fishing buddy.

"Whatcha doing tomorrow?" he asked. "Wanna try for some cod?"

What a question to ask a confirmed codfisherman.

"Good," he said, "Meet me at daybreak at the dock. We'll go out on the 'Echo.'"

The "Echo" is Artie's pride and joy...a neat thirty footer.

"Oh...one other thing," he added. We'll have a pilgrim on board. Never caught a fish in his life. Nice guy."

"So? Maybe it's me, but you sound like something's wrong."

"I did a damn fool thing. In one of my weaker moments I promised the guy a cod."

"Good luck to you feller," I replied, and hung up.

I sometimes wish I had the confidence of Artie Leidecker. I've found out from sad experience that one of the fishing facts of life is to never promise fish to anybody—especially a beginner; and more especially does this apply when codfishing. Who of us can tell for certain how fish will act from one day to the next? Nobody, I guess, unless, maybe, it's a guy like Artie Leidecker.

Be that as it may, the next morning found me aboard the "Echo," where I was immediately introduced to Al Dunn, Artie's pilgrim of the day. Al was a nice guy, all right. A gentleman from the word go. Quiet, unassuming, and eager to learn how to catch codfish. He had all the markings of an apt pupil.

"You know," he said, "for a long time now, Artie's been telling me about all the fish you guys catch. I figured I'd give it a whirl."

"And has he told you about the times we don't catch fish?" I asked while tying my rod to the low rail around the stern. "Artie's a great kidder, you know; but we'll see what happens."

I was sorry to be the one to dampen the guy's spirits, but I wasn't anxious to get in the middle of anything that might backfire. I'm always hungry to see new fishermen join the ranks, of course; but I hate to see them become so disappointed that they never return.

This usually happens when the novice is told by some unthinking fellow angler that all that's necessary is to dunk bait overboard and the fish will leap on the hook. Experienced fishermen know from past experience that this rarely happens. When the fishing turns scour, beginners easily become discouraged; especially is this so when they watch others catch fish while their efforts go in vain. I didn't want to see this happen to Al Dunn.

But my main concern for Al at the moment, though, was seasickness. When we passed through Jones Inlet and headed for the bell buoy, I found I needn't have worried on that score. The sea was calm enough, with a light northwest wind barely stirring the surface. Which for a mid-December day was ideal.

Artie decided to try the Cholera Banks first, and if this area didn't produce, we'd try one of the wrecks in the vicinity. He had put a bushel of skimmer on board the night before and as we made our way through the sea, I opened and sliced into bait-size pieces what I considered would be sufficient for the day. The remainder I left unopened in the shell. They would serve as our chum.

Finished with that finger-nipping chore, I explained to Al the basics of codfishing and hoped the quick run-down would help him connect with a fish or two. I needn't have concerned myself unduly. As it turned out, he did fine. We were the guys who had the problems.

Our first drop on Cholera proved a dud: bergalls, and more bergalls. They really appreciated Al's bait. I cautioned him not to flail away at these pests because that only aided them in their larceny. But like most beginning fisher-

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men, the temptation, coupled with the knowledge that there really were fish down there, was too great, and most of his time was spent rebaiting his hooks.

We made another drop and succeeded in catching a few horned dogfish which amused Al to no end until he became careless in their handling and was immediately punctured with one of their spines.

But every dark cloud has a silver lining, they say, and the fact that we were catching dogfish heartened Artie and me to the extent that there might possibly be a cod or two about. But if there were, we couldn't prove it.

Artie was beginning to get exasperated. "I'm going to try that high spot on the south piece," he told me. "If there's nothing doing, we'll try the Steel Wreck. Damn the luck, anyway."

"This is what you get when you promise fish," I chided. "I hope the great name of Artie Leidecker will be upheld."

But this time we succeeded. At least, our pilgrim did. He connected with the first cod, a fish of about twelve pounds. He followed our coaching to the letter. He took his time bringing in the fish and allowed it to exhaust itself in stages. He didn't even become excited as Artie gaffed the fish. Only when the fish was decked did he allow himself to become ecstatic.

"How about that! How about that!" he repeated while removing the hook. "I really caught this fish. You guys sure know what you're doing."

As Artie and I had yet to catch a cod, I didn't know exactly how he meant that.

As far as his promise went, Artie was off the hook, and he didn't hesitate to give me one of those "I told you so" looks. "Get the chum going, you Doubting Thomas. Maybe we'll get a few more."

Two more cod did come aboard, both about the same size as the first, and so help me, Al was the guy who caught them. Artie had one ling to his credit; I didn't even have that. I began to look at our pilgrim with a jaundiced eye. Either this was some sort of gag cooked up between them, or our pilgrim had the inborn making of a great fisherman. I didn't know which it was, but I was beginning to favor the thought that Al was a natural born angler who had sadly gotten off to a belated start.

Sporadic chumming failed to produce more cod and when the dogfish threatened to climb on board, we pulled anchor and headed for the Steel Wreck.

Al and I took advantage of the warm cabin and we sat across from each other, sipping coffee. "Before you fish this wreck, remove the bottom hook," I instructed. "And bring the top one up a little higher. About three and a half feet will do. That bottom hook will only draw bergalls, and there aren't enough ling around to make it worthwhile. Have a good grip on your rod because sometimes there's some good cod over these wrecks."

"How big?" he asked, reaching for the Thermos.

"Over the years, from some of these wrecks around here, Artie and I have caught a few close to forty pounds."

"Phew! Maybe I'll get lucky."

"Yeah," I answered. "I got a sneaking feeling that might be so."

Artie placed us over the wreck and I got the anchor over and then moved to the stern and positioned myself between my partners. I didn't bother with chumming. We find that chumming isn't necessary when wreck fishing; any fish in the locality will be drawn to the vicinity, anyway. I know several fishermen who go in for wreck chumming on occasion. They say it pays off, but except when ling fishing these areas, I've found this to be unnecessary when codfishing.

We did better here, with four cod coming aboard. I had one about ten pounds, Artie had one around fifteen, and you know who took the other two—both being larger fish than ours, averaging around twenty pounds apiece. We spent several hours over the wreck, but those four were all we could manage.

On the way in, I showed Al how to clean and fillet cod. He picked up the method in short order and I let him work on the last two in the tub. He did a good job of it, and I began to feel quite proud of Al Dunn.

Al's been out with us several times since. He's yet to be skunked—he's a hard man to beat. I mentioned this to Artie at the conclusion of one of our better trips. "Old Al, here, really's come up in the fishing world," I said.

He draped a friendly arm over Al's shoulders. "Yeah," he said. "I know. I guess you might say he's no longer a pilgrim."

Al picked up the thirty pound cod he'd taken that day. "I guess you might also say that's real pilgrim's progress."

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NATURAL BAITS—

The Reliable Sandworm

by Frank Berrafato

Any angler who has used natural baits has probably come into contact with the sandworm (Neanthes virens), the Atlantic representative of the large family of clamworms. For many anglers, the sandworm comes close to being a universal natural bait, primarily because he is readily eaten by a variety of local saltwater species—such as flounder, blackfish, weakfish, porgy, and striped bass. A close look at the physical characteristics, lifestyle, habits, methods of capture, keeping and using this popular natural bait will enable the angler to compare the sandworm's potential and uses with other baits whic which we have examined in past issues of The Fisherman. (See past articles on such topics as clams, squid, fiddler crabs, hermit crabs, killifish and spearing.)

One of the most noticeable physical characteristics of the sandworm is his segmented body, which appears to consist of similar parts—known as somites or metameres. They are visible externally as rings. (See illustration). It is interesting to note that the rings of the sandworm's body and the vertebrae of man's backbone are evidences of segmentation.

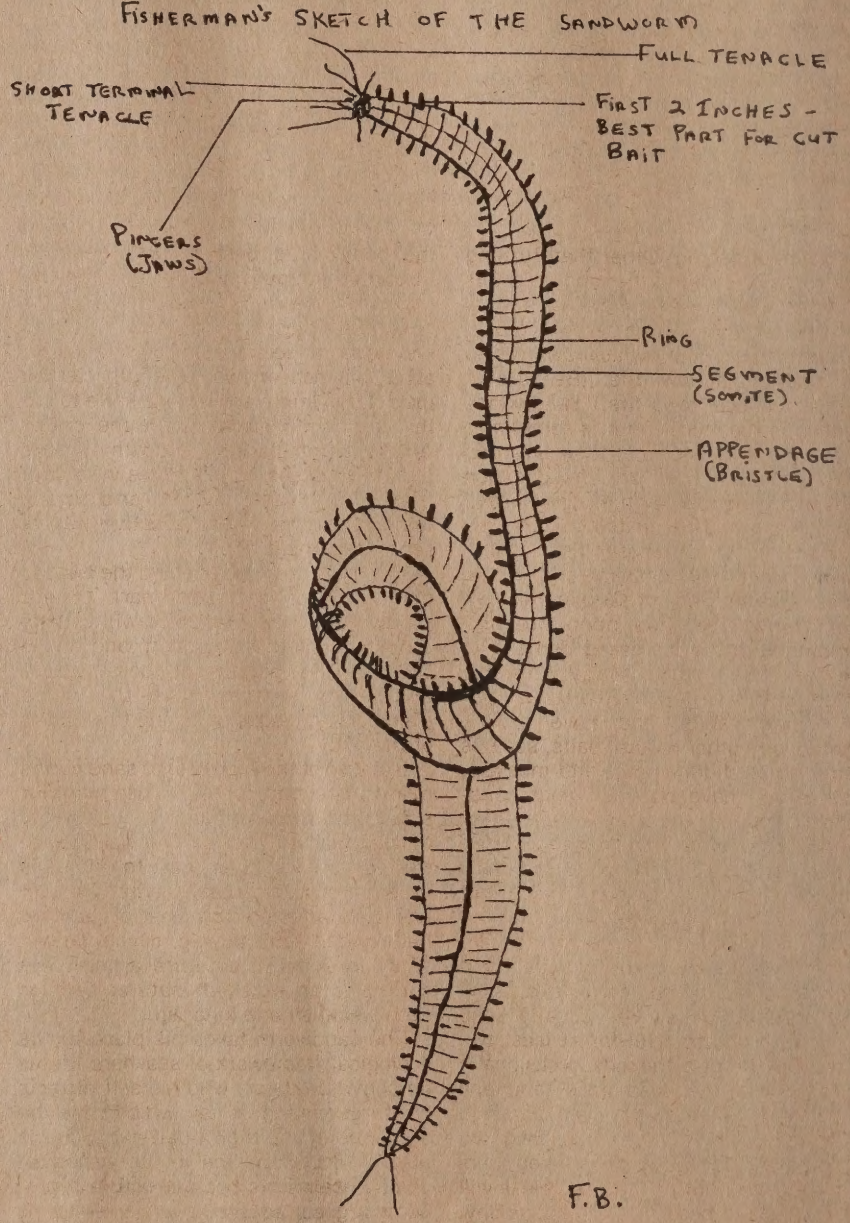
The body of the sandworm is flattened, and it may reach a length of 18 inches or more, with at least 200 segments. But the angler will encounter sandworms which average between 5 and 12 inches in length. Larger specimens are often referred to as "bass worms." In some instances, the length determines the selling price of these worms.

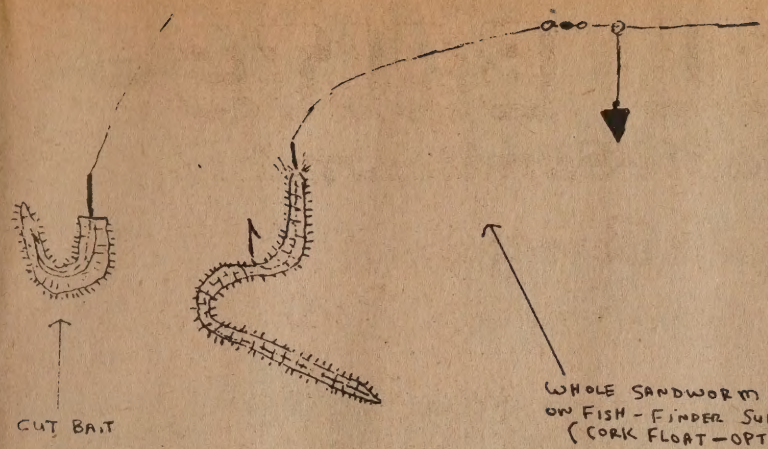
The sandworm is a fairly colorful critter when he is alive and healthy. The males take on a bright blue-green, while the females are duller with orange and red colorings. A close look at the head reveals that it is well developed consisting of two pairs of simple eyes, four full tentacles on each side of the head. and a pair of short terminal tentacles right about the mouth. Small animals and tiny worms are captured by a pair of strong black jaws which are thrusted outward with the pharynx when the sandworm is feeding. Most anglers will immediately recognize the jaws since this is the part of the anatomy which will "pinch" the fingers which try to place him on a hook.

Besides the well-developed head and the segmented body, it is interesting to note the bristled appendages of the sandworm. (See illustration) Each of the segments carries a pair of unbranched, unsegmented paddle-like appendages for crawling or swimming. The appendages can be regenerated if lost, and some of them are modified for reproductive purposes in the mature worms.

Sandworms live in burrows in the shelly sand or mud on tidal flats. By day it rests in its burrows, but at night it extends its body or may leave the burrow entirely. They also live under rocks, and this writer has often found sandworms by turning over rocks at the low tidal stage. At night they can be seen lying on the mud or swimming in shallow water.

The ambitious angler is sometimes able to find enough small worms to do a





BAITING THE SANDWORM F.B.

few hours of fishing. Other than turning over rocks or stalking them on mudflats at night with a searchlight, grabbing them before they return to their holes, you can also dig your own sandworms on the mudflats at low tide. (Be sure to check your local laws first) Sandworms lie deep in the mud, and it is sometimes quite a job to get down to them. Garden forks and clam hoes are the common implements used in digging the worms.

Anglers who are unable to visit the mudflats must purchase their sandworms from bait dealers and tackle shops, and the price of sandworms, like everything else, has been steadily climbing with the increased demand in the last few years. Many anglers, including this writer, have altered their purchasing habits, and have experimented with other natural baits, such as clams, squid, fiddler crabs and mussels.

Once you have obtained your sandworms, you can generally keep them alive for several days in damp rockweed or sea lettuce, or in the bottom of your refrigerator (not the freezer). I find that it is easier to keep them in the springtime when the temperatures are cool. If you place them outside on a window ledge, porch, etc.—in a small cardboard box, they will usually keep fresh, firm and colorful for at least two days. Go through the box occasionally and pick out the dead ones, and any exposure to fresh water (rain) will kill them off quickly. When you take the worms along on a fishing trip, keep them in a cool spot, out of the sun. Heat will cause them to become soft and mushy, and difficult to keep on the hook.

As stated in the beginning of this article, the sandworm is an effective bait for many types of fish. When fishing for striped bass or weakfish, whether from the surf or from a boat, you can string on whole worm. The fish-finder rig (see illustration) is an effective method for the surfcaster to present whole worms. Since the head is the strongest part of the body, it is best to run the hook through the mouth and out through the back of the head. For small fish, such as flounders, blackfish, porgies, seabass and eels, cut sections of the sandworm, about an inch or two in length can be used. Most anglers will use a knife to cut the worm into pieces, with the critter usually being hacked to death. I have found that breaking off pieces with your fingernails (use thumb and index fingers) is a quick and effective way of separating them.

The first two inches behind the head is the strongest and best part of the sandworm to use. Red blood will usually come forth from the cut end, and this is because the sandworm possesses a circulatory system, with the blood transporting food and oxygen to all parts of the body.

Because of the high cost of sandworms many anglers do not like to use them for small fish such as porgies, which will quickly tear off and eat the bait before the larger fish can get to it. This problem of rising costs for natural bait has also affected the use of another natural bait—the shrimp, which we will study in detail in a future article. The shrimp is an excellent natural bait for both weakfish and kingfish.

The sandworm takes his place in the ecological framework of seashore life as an active predator, who himself attracts the larger predator fish which rove the shoreline at the high tidal stage. He is also an important link in the ecological chain because his body structure represents a great advance over lower forms of marine worms. We saw these advances in his circulatory system and his segmented body, complete with appengages for locomotion and reproduction. The sandworm over the years has remained a most versatile bait, and when other natural baits have failed, this writer has found that the sandworm can usually be counted upon to take fish from Long Island waters.

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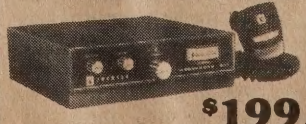
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TRENDS IN TACKLE

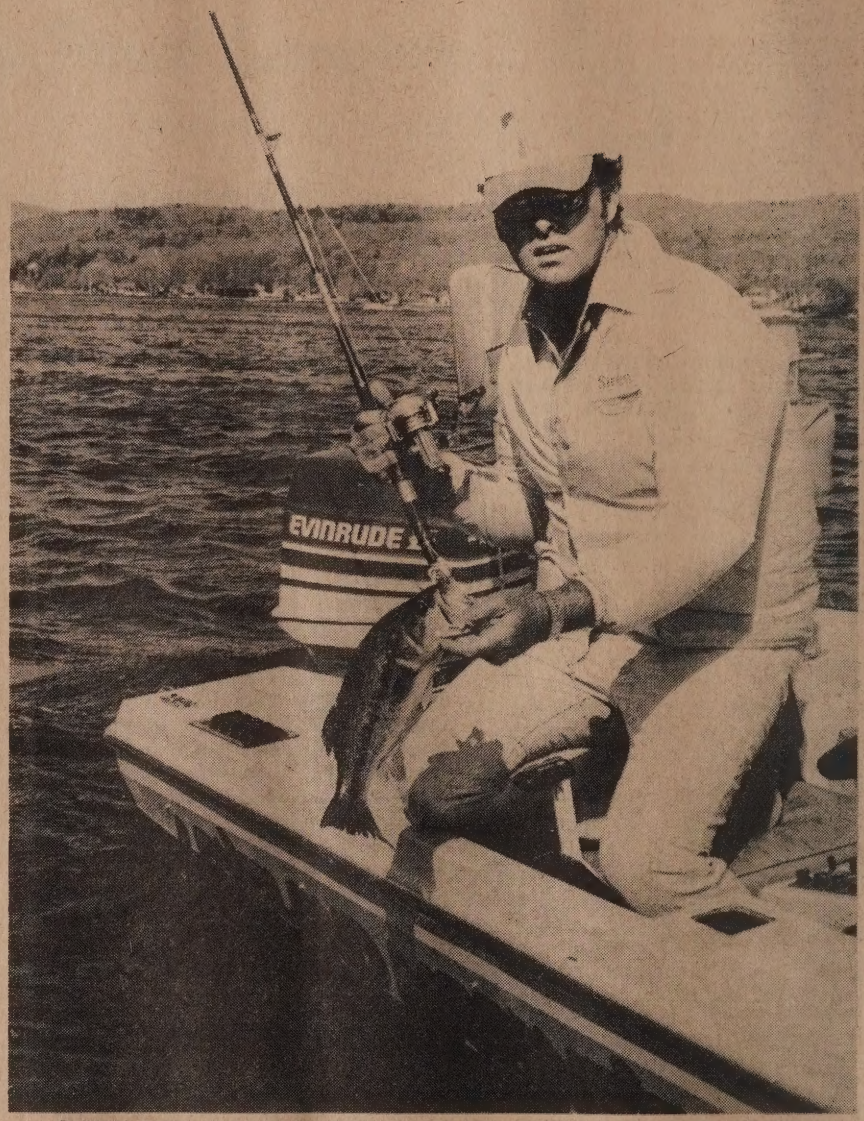
by Mark Sosin

When Henry Ford rigidly resisted change and offered car buyers any color they wanted as long as they chose black, he echoed the long time sentiments and philosophies of many of the old guard tackle companies. Season after season innovation was the exception rather than the rule, and the typical approach was to continue manufacturing the same items as last year. Angling pioneers who worked at flank speed to establish and publicize new techniques that advanced fishing skills were constantly stymied in their efforts because their pleas for better tackle reverberated in echo chambers instead of reaching receptive ears.

All this is history. There has been a turn-around in the tackle industry and the successful equipment makers recognize that they need a continuous stream of new and exciting products to maintain a competitive edge. Research and engineering are finally receiving the attention they have always merited. At the same time, competitors watch each other closely, and if a new line of products looks as if it will establish a trend, you can bet it will have plenty of company in the marketplace in the form of imitations and further innovations.

Establishing a trend takes courage, because a manufacturer must abandon the sanctuary of the accepted to set out in a new direction. That becomes a gamble that involves both time and money. If it fails, competitors sit back cozily and point long fingers; if it succeeds, they push the panic button and try to play catch-up ball. The consumer sits on the throne as the ultimate judge. He is ruthless in his decisions and, although he seeks the comfort of tradition and resists change, loyalty is not his greatest asset. Show him a new and better product and he will switch.

The general trend is toward lighter and more sophisticated tackle that gives the angler more enjoyment and helps him to increase his catch. Graphite and composites of glass and graphite continue to set the pace in the rod market. Significant advances have already been achieved since graphite was first announced as a rod-building material a few short years ago. Current products are excellent, but one must remember that all graphite or graphite-glass composites are not the same. It is important to be selective in this area just as you would be in choosing a glass or cane rod.



Skirted spool, open face spinning reels are gaining in popularity among freshwater anglers as well as saltwater enthusiasts. They not only help to keep dirt from working down into the gears, but they prevent the line from slipping behind the spool.

There will be some departures from the usual rod-building materials in the form of composites, but, within a season or two, the direction will be even clearer. I personally view graphite as a beginning step in the journey to find new and better rod blanks. No one can predict the ultimate results, but many materials unheard of in the fishing industry are now being inspected and tested as possibilities.

The actual proof of any fishing rod is its fishability and not the material from which it is crafted. You are going to see more refinements in glass and combinations that make you wonder. In the interim, carefully selected graphite fishing rods (and those with a small percentage of glass) are a pleasure to use and often result in catching more fish because they are more sensitive than other materials in presenting a bait or lure and in monitoring its progress.

Look for advances in graphite that

feature longer and lighter rods for such applications as fly rods or surf sticks. Fly rods are already available that handle featherweight lines on extended blanks, giving the angler the advantage of a long rod. Surf fishermen can benefit from the same approach, but, at the moment, rods for this purpose are very expensive. There is talk that the price of the raw material will drop, but specialists aren't as enthusiastic about that happening in the immediate future as the hopes of anglers might indicate.

Open-faced spinning reels will be characterized by fully skirted spools in the future. That isn't too say that there won't be a vast assortment of standard models on the market, but more and more reel makers will introduce and market reels that boast a skirted spool. Interestingly, there was a time when the skirted spool sold only to the surf fishermen who was afraid of sand and dirt working into the gears. The re-birth of the skirted spool, however, promises

More and more fishermen are discovering the fish catching ability of soft plastic lures. This nice weakfish inhaled a leadheaded jig dressed with a plastic tail.

The trend is toward lighter tackle for all types of fishing. Nick Cicero removes a bucktail from the jaw of a striper taken on plug casting tackle.

to stay with us for awhile and it is now feasible to make miniature reels of that design. In addition to protecting the inner workings from dirt, a skirted spool also keeps line from falling behind the spool.

Closed-faced spin casting reels are also being improved and there is a minor trend toward miniaturization. These tiny reels are available individually or in combination with a matching rod. Some of these reels point to excellence in design and manufacture. There are also less expensive imitations tailored to grab a portion of the market.

Bait casting (or plug casting, if you prefer) has undergone a metamorphosis in the last few years and even more reels are now available. For the fresh water fisherman, the trend is toward smaller reels with narrower spools. Obviously, line capacity is not a problem for bass, pike or other denizens and there is a growing interest in using lighter lines on this type of tackle.

The fly fishing market still interests manufacturers and you will see an array of new fly reels for both fresh and saltwater. Some will be basic models that merely hold line, while the salt water designs are extremely sophisticated and retail at from $175 to $300. You should be seeing graphite fly reels in the next year or two. One manufacturer has already unveiled a graphite reel and you can bet that others will follow.

Monofilament line is the most widely used and probably the least understood item in fishing tackle. Subtle changes in the formulation of monofilament are always being tested and introduced, but there are no clues to any major breakthroughs that are evident. Of course, line companies keep their research extremely confidential. You

can, however, expect to see continuous improvements in monofilaments if you study the various offerings on the market.

Tackle boxes are a tribute to the imaginative minds of engineers who must have started their careers trying to put more equipment in submarines. If you have ever been aboard a sub, you know that it's virtually impossible to find a spare inch of space that doesn't boast complete utilization. The latest among tackle boxes are the massive drawer configurations that take little more room when open and can carry enough lures and terminal tackle to keep you busy for a long time. Many feature drawers that are interchangeable, so you can pick the configurations that fit your type of fishing. There is also the option of buying extra drawers and filling them with tackle, substituting the necessary drawers for a particular trip.

This concept of modular boxes is the latest rage and is quickly gaining in popularity. Not only is it possible to change drawers and trays in some boxes, but some makers offer a series of smaller boxes for specific uses such as spinner baits, plugs, jigs and the like. Others now make flat, modular boxes with adjustable compartments that hold a surprising amount of lures and terminal gear. The idea is to make up each box as a complete unit. As an example, you can have a bluefish box, striper box, offshore box, largemouth bass box, and so forth. Then, it is merely a matter of picking up the right box and you don't have to worry about sorting out your gear. There is much to be said for this concept and it does have the advantage of making it easy to go fishing.

Lures are constantly in a state of flux and there are new designs and colors every year. It makes one wonder whatever happened to last season's killers. Look for new and different innovations in soft plastic and, of course, dozens of new plugs that do everything including ringing the dinner bell for your favorite gamefish. Problems that lure manufacturers are working on are designing plugs that will dive even deeper, baits that will maintain a certain depth or sink very, very slowly, and innovations that will catch the imagination of the fisherman as well as the fish. Remember, however, that it is very costly to introduce a new lure and no ones does it just to catch the fisherman.

The most encouraging aspect in tackle trends is that we may expect better equipment every year. Manufacturers not only gain more skill in working with existing materials, but they are now searching for new materials that will do the job even better. The fisherman has to benefit.

Graphite rods are becoming standard equipment among bait casters. For freshwater, the narrower spool reels are preferred, but in saltwater, wider spools hold more line and have more appeal.

Longer graphite flyrods offer a decided advantage when fishing lighter lines. They even make sense in small streams such as this one.

L.I.F. Film & Slide Show

The Long Island Fisherman has prepared three slide shows and film presentations on fishing that will be shown to fishing clubs on request. If your club wishes to see one of the shows, please have a club officer fill out the form below and return it to The Fisherman no later than dec. 15th. You will be notified by phone if a show can be arranged.

Shows may be scheduled anytime during December through March. It is understood that any show will be allowed to be presented at the beginning of the club's meeting **before** regular club business is taken care of. Only one show per club.

Salt Marshes & the Future of Our Fisheries
Includes 17 minute, 16 mm color film. Film sequences include Montauk fishing and Southampton Estuaries. Film followed with lecture by Dr. William A. Muller.

Striped Bass
Slide show lecture and question and answer session by Dr. W. A. Muller on fishing techniques and ecological problems.

Getting To Know the Weakfish
Slide show lecture includes techniques, locations and experiences of Dr. William A. Muller.

Name of Club .....

Mailing Address .....

Show Requested .....

Alternate Date .....

Est. number of members to attend. .....

Name of Officer .....

Business Phone Number .....

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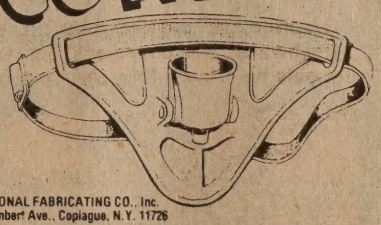
The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.



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★ Bonus Prize ★

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LAST WEEK'S WINNER:
There was no winner last week, so next week's winner shall receive $20 instead of the usual $10 plus a free fishing trip for two aboard a boat of his/her choice.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:

933-BXV

Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

MONTAUK	CAPTREE	SHEEPSHEAD BAY	NORTH SHORE
Viking Star	Speedy VI	Amberjack IV	Port Jeff Ace
Peconic Queen III	Capt. Ben Litwin	Chief	Betty W
Marlin III	Capt. Joseph Fleet		

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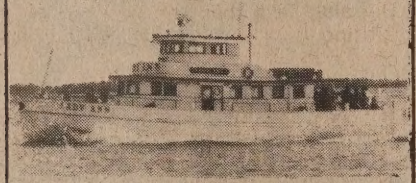
LADY ANN



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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Captain Dick Vigilant of the **Triton II** was asleep when we called Sunday night for the fishing report, but his son-mate "Mighty Mouse" was on hand to give us the report. Codfishing has been slow to good, with most of the fish running in the twenty pound range. On Sunday, eight big codfish, a couple of small pollack and a mess of whiting were taken fishing in 65 feet of water at inner Cartwright Grounds. Very few blackfish have been taken lately.

CAPTREE

Captain Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy VI** reported that the codfishing is now more consistent and slowly improving, but still cannot be considered to be good. The boat has been averaging 10 to 15 cod a trip with plenty of ling and whiting providing action for all and helping to fill out the bags. There is plenty of mackerel and herring in the water and it seems that the cod may be chasing them at mid-levels. Not many dogfish on Sunday but sometimes you can drop the anchor in a certain spot and the doggies can drive you nuts. Best cod action has been about six miles east of the NB buoy in 120 feet of water over the mussel bottom. The draggers are still taking good catches of cod, but for some reason the hook and line catches have been disappointing and only a few fish are taken on every drop.

Captain George Tweedy of the **Captain Scotty** reported that he didn't sail much during the week because of all the wind, but Sunday was the boats best day yet with the cod this season. Twenty-five cod were boated, half of which were in the 3 to 6 lb. range and the rest ranging from 15 to 25 lbs. The pool fish was about 35 pounds, and the ling and whiting are helping to keep the action lively. Sunday's fishing on calm seas was in 135 feet of water over a rocky bottom. A day or two of nice weather seems to be the key to a good catch.

Captain Neil Delanoy of the charter-boat **Lady Ann** said that the codfishing was still slow with 12 cod taken on Saturday and only two cod coming aboard on Sunday. Whiting and ling are filling out the bags of those who fish for them. The pool fish on Saturday was 31 lbs., and Sunday's pooler was 33 lbs. Best fishing has been southeast of the NB buoy in 135 feet of water. Neil noted that the draggers have been catching cod

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the best in years. The Lady Ann is having two special offshore trips for cod on Sunday, December 26th and January 2nd, also a Sunday. The boat will leave the dock at 4Am, and there is a 30 man limit on each trip. Fare is only $20.00, but you must make a reservation. Call Neil at 516-698-5918.

LINDENHURST

Duke's Bait & Tackle tells us that one customer fishing from a private boat had 7 cod fishing SW of Fire Island Inlet in 95 feet of water.

MASSAPEQUA

Bill at **Massapequa Tackle & Sports** says that local fishermen are buying worms and taking flounders on nice days at Four Corners and Massapequa Cove. Bill also says that you can get all the whiting you can carry just about 2 miles off the beach.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie of the **Starstream II** reports that they are doing excellent on the whiting with fish up to 3½ lbs. filling the bags for his customers. There are some ling mixed in but because of the fantastic whiting fishing everyone is going home happy.

The **Aloma II** reports that because of the ideal weather and good drifting conditions the whiting and ling fishing was excellent. The Captain is fishing Ambrose Tower and is loading up with 40-100 fish per man.

The **Nite Owl** reports that on Sat. he came up with a 39 lb. codfish but the rest of the catch was dogfish. On Sunday he did very good at the Bell buoy on the whiting.

Roy at **Mako Marina** informs us that Tony Froitzheim on the Misty had 10 cod on Sunday. Tony is a member of the Hudson Anglers. The largest of the 10 was hung by Baldwin's Dick Baldassano, a 44 lb. 4 oz. cod. All fish were over 20 pounds. This was along with a lot of doggies. Action was best in 115 feet of water SE of the inlet.

The **Captain Al** scored again with a

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cow country special as evidenced on Sunday by a 51 lb. cod happily boated by angler Dan Sullivan of Bellmore. Dan also had an 18 and 21 lb. cod. 19 cod were taken for the day. There was also a good sprinkling of big boston mackerel.

The charterboat **Captain Darby** had the Baldwin American Legion Post out recently to the tune of 8 cod from 18 to 30 pounds fishing SE of Cholera. They took a load of whiting also.

The **Acme II** had the East Bay Anglers out on Sunday. The pool was taken by Morty Harris with an 18 lb. cod.

Bob at **Hook Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle** said that all through the week fishermen were bringing in a few cod each day earning their Long Island Fishermen skillfull Angler Awards.

The **Blue Fin II** called to tell us that Sunday's charter, the Hudson Bay Fishing Club of Freeport had 17 cod up to 30 lbs. Mr. Casey took the pool and was hi-hook. Fishing was done in 110 feet of water, SE of the inlet. On Saturday the charter was for the Amityville Harbor Fishing Club. Fishing was done in 100 feet of water and 12 cod were taken. Seaford angler Bob Scanlan took the pool with a 28 pounder.

ISLAND PARK

Captain Clem of the **Commodore** called to say that he is doing super fantastic whiting fishing both Saturdays and Sundays, fishing the Ambrose Tower area. Clem says that it's no trick for a man to fill up an entire sack which is about 100 lbs. of fish. Clem says that there are a good sprinkling of mackerel too, so this is the time to hop on the Commodore on the weekends and fill up the freezer.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

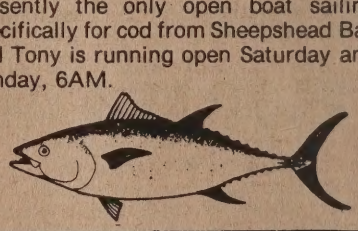
The **Chief** reports that he is catching tons & tons of whiting just north of Scotland and the Scotland area. The Capt. said that he travels just 40 minutes from the dock and hasn't seen fishing this good in 10 years.

The **New Eagle** reports that the heated rail is hot and so is the whiting and ling fishing both day and Wed., Fri. and Sat. nights at the Turner buoy.

The **Dorothy B** is still filling the burlap bags with whiting for his customers.

The **Helen H** reports that the whiting fishing was very good at the Scotland light and Ambrose Tower over the weekend.

Captaiin Tony of the **Big Mohawk II** called to tell us that Sundays pool fish was a 36 lb. 12½ oz. cod taken by Brooklyn angler Ramon Morales. 17 other cod were taken between 25 and 30 lbs. plus 10 other smaller cod. On Saturday the catch was 12 cod which included a 34 pounder taken by Captain Pete Lynch. The **Big Mohawk II** is presently the only open boat sailing specifically for cod from Sheepshead Bay and Tony is running open Saturday and Sunday, 6AM.



NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

PORT JEFFERSON

Ken Freeman at the **Anglers Den** said some fellows are picking up a few whiting and ling at buoy 11. The nasty unpredictable weather has been hampering those fellows still interested in going out. Mt. Sinai Harbor is still producing flounders. Just a few. But here again the weather has kept most fellows indoors. Members of the cold group who fish the Power Plant were in

buying smelt Tri Fins. No results of their activities were available but we'll keep you posted.

For fishermen in the Selden area, please take notice that **Anglers Den** has moved about 100 feet to the east of their old location, under the same expert management of sharpshooter Ken Freeman.

The following are winners of the 1976 Anglers Den fishing contest: Blackfish: 1st place, Ray Kline, 10 lbs.-2nd place, Richard Gioia, 8 lbs. 14 ozs.

Fluke: 1st place, Rudy DeMaria, 11.5½ ozs.-2nd place, Lenny Woodrich, 9.4 ozs.

Bluefish: 1st place, J. Stieffer, 18 lbs. 10 ozs.-2nd place, James Katsaros, 17 lbs. 9½ ozs.

Striped Bass: 1st place to Mike Voripaieff, 39 lbs. 8 ozs. 2nd place to Dan Dochdormann, 35 lbs. 6 ozs.

Weakfish: 1st place to Fred Kaye, 8 lbs. 6 ozs. 2nd place to Buck Mills, 6 lbs. 3 oz.

Ken says to stop in for some coffee to warm you up and be sure to enter his contests in the upcoming 1977 fishing season.

NORTHPORT

Tom at **Bowman's Sporting Goods** said he received word that the hot water was turned off at the Power Plant for a short while. Water was still coming out the outflow but it was cold water. Fellows coming into The Store said they saw porgies and kingfish floating dead in the water, presumably killed by the shutoff of the hot water. As of this writing, the hot water is back on but the question now is, how did the hot water shutoff affect the population of striped bass that take up winter residence in the hot water. We'll let you know what's happening as the reports become available.

NEW ROCHELLE

Captain Pete Pearson of the **Klondike II** was all smiles when I called. Fishing as of this writing was much improved over the poor showing of earlier last week. On Saturday fares took home anywhere from 40 to 100 fish apiece. Most of these whiting were good sized. Very few small "spikes". Pool winners are big whiting going 3-3½ pounds. Ling don't stand a chance at the pool money with whiting that big. Besides, what would a ling do with pool money?

One optimistic note is the fact that on Saturday's trip the fish were all over a large area, indicating a nice concentration of fish. Pete said if the weatherman gives him a break, it's a pretty good chance he can provide fares with a productive day on the water.

The coffee's hot; the fish are biting; what are you waiting for?

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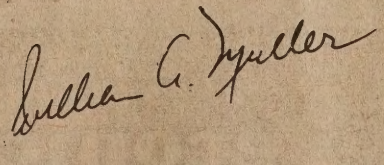
RECREATION: EDITORIAL
(Continued from page 4.)

consequences of proposals must be thought out. Economic benefits should not be the only or the main concern. Man, his emotional well being and his happiness, must come first along with striving towards a more ecologically harmonious world. Furthermore, if government fails to fulfill this role we call upon all fishermen to stand guard and be ready to do battle against such proposals.

We will continue to keep you informed of such proposals as they are discovered. We will also inform you about public hearings that will give you the opportunity to register your opposition. The rest will take patience, vigilance and plenty of hard work!



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To place an ad in The Long Island Fisherman, our new policy is to mail into us the ad exactly as you wish it to read accompanied by a check in the amount of $4.50 (a minimum or for 30 words) and $.15 per additional word. Extended run discounts: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; 50 times, 15%; Ask about our photo classified. Effective April 29th, 1976. Mail to L.I.F., P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.

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1973 24' Winner Custom Cabinets, 225 OMC, CB, VHF, white line, full canvas, anc. windless and extras. $7500. 668-2111 or 2330.

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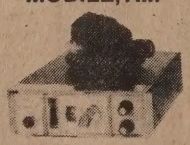

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR	2:55	3:14	3:41	4:00	3:24	3:46	4:31	4:59	6:03	6:38	6:24	6:56	2:57	3:21	12/16
FRI	3:58	4:22	4:42	5:01	4:30	4:54	5:27	5:59	7:11	7:54	7:23	7:54	3:54	4:19	12/17
SAT	4:59	5:23	5:39	6:01	5:31	5:58	6:22	6:55	8:18	9:04	8:20	8:53	4:50	5:16	12/18
SUN	5:55	6:19	6:34	6:57	6:27	6:53	7:15	7:48	9:22	10:07	9:14	9:48	5:45	6:09	12/19
MON	6:45	7:09	7:27	7:51	7:19	7:48	8:06	8:42	10:17	11:00	10:08	10:40	6:36	7:01	12/20
TUE	7:34	8:00	8:20	8:44	8:10	8:40	8:59	9:33	11:11	11:52	10:59	11:31	7:27	7:52	12/21
WED	8:23	8:50	9:10	9:37	9:01	9:34	9:48	10:25	—	12:02	11:49	—	8:16	8:42	12/22
THUR	9:12	9:41	10:02	10:28	9:54	10:29	10:40	11:17	12:43	12:52	12:21	12:38	9:06	9:31	12/23

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES!

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	— 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	— 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	— 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	— 0 12
Seaside Park	— 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	— 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	— 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	— 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	— 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	— 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	— 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	— 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	— 0 38
Democrat Point	— 0 38
Coast Guard Station	— 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	— 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	— 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	— 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	— 0 08
Herod Point	— 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	— 0 20
Truman Beach	— 0 42
Falkner Island	— 0 13
Sachem Head	— 0 10
Branford Harbor	— 0 07
New Haven Harbor	— 0 08
Milford Harbor	— 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	— 0 03
Saugatuck River	— 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	— 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	— 0 14
Montauk Inlet	— 0 25
Montauk Point	— 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	— 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	— 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	— 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	— 0 [illegible]
Execution Light	— 0 06
Manhasset Bay	— 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	— 0 11
City Island	— 0 03
Rye Beach	— 0 28
Port Chester	— 0 09
Mamaroneck	— 0 08
New Rochelle	— 0 24
Davids Island	— 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	— 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	— 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	— 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	— 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	— 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	— 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	— 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

12/6	7:13	4:29
12/11	7:18	4:28
12/16	7:22	4:29
12/21	7:25	4:31
12/26	7:27	4:34

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
12/21	12/28	12/6	12/14

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
THURS.	—	6:20	12:10	6:45
FRI.	12:30	7:10	1:00	7:35
SAT.	1:20	8:05	1:50	8:30
SUN.	2:15	9:00	2:45	9:30
MON.	3:10	9:55	3:45	10:25
TUES.	4:05	10:55	4:40	11:25
WED.	5:05	11:55	5:40	—
THURS.	6:05	12:25	6:35	12:55

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